ground water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend in ground water levels.

(iii) Implementation of a Central Sector Scheme on recharge of ground water by Central Ground Water Board in Maharashtra, Karnataka, NCT of Delhi and Union Territory of Chandigarh in coordination with concerned State Governments.

(iv) Formulation of a Centrally Sponsored Schemes to assist the State Government in artifical recharge of ground water. The scheme is at consultation stage.

(v) Constitution of the Central Ground Water Board as an Authority under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for regulation and control of ground water management and development.

Shortage of Officers in Army

*513. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH :
SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total shortage of officer cadre in the Army;

(b) the number of applications for premature retirements pending in the Army Headquarter; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government to make up this shortage in the officer cadre ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV) : (a) The total shortage of officer cadre in the Amry is 12,972.

(b) 144 as on 30.4.1997.

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this direction include introduction of University Entry Scheme, Direct entry for NCC 'C' certificate holders without going through the UPSC examination, enhanced recruitment of permanent Commissioned Officers and Short Service Commissioned Officers, and induction of women as officers in the service. A new scheme for induction of personnel below officer rank as commissioned officers has also been approved. A campaign through the media for highlighting the advantages of a career in the army is also being launched.

Analysis of Tobacco Products

*514. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made any scientific analysis of the Pan Masala Tabacco Product "Gutka" to know its adverse effects on consumer health;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to ban production and sale of such products;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) to (e) A high level Technical Committee of expert constituted by the Government has recommended that systematic, clinical/epidemiological studies should be carried out to ascertain the co-relation between consumption of pan masala and gutka and their adverse effects. Two proposals for carrying out such epidemiological and animal based studies to be conducted over a period of two to three years are under consideration.

According to the provisions of Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955 packages of pan masala and chewing tobacco products are required to carry out a statutory warning on the label. Further with effect from November, 1990, the advertisement of pan masalas and tabacco have been banned on Doordarshan and All India Radio.

Develpment of Primary Education

*515. SHRI SURENDRA YADAV :
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that primary education in the country is being neglected for the last few years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the percentage of allocation of funds made for the development of primary education during the last three years as well as current years, till-date; and

(c) steps taken for the development/improvement of primary education ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) and (b) Government of India attaches the greatest importance to Universalisation of Elementary Edcuation (UEE). In pursuance of the National Policy on Education, 1986, as revised in 1992, concerted efforts are being made by the Central and State Governments to achieved the goal of UEE before we enter the twenty frist century.

According to available information the percentage of funds allocated to Elementary Education in the Central and State/UT Budgets of Education Departments during the last three years is as follows :

1993-94	46%
1994-95	47%
1995-96	47%

This pattern is likely to be maintained during the current year.

(c) The Centrally sponsored Schemes of Operation Blackboard Non-formal Education, National Programme of Nutritional Support for Primary Education (commonly known as Mid-Day Meals Programme) an District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) have augmented the efforts of the State Governments for promotion and development of primary education. The introduction of Minimum Levels of Learning at the primary level is expected to bring about an improvement in achievement levels of learners.

Adult Education

*516. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :
SHRI HARADHAN ROY :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the States where Adult Education Scheme is being implemented at present;

(b) the expenditure incurred under the above scheme during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the number of persons benefited, State-wise and year-wise;

(d) whether the Government have received any complaints regarding misappropriation of funds;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;

(f) whether the Government have increased the allocation of funds therefor during 1997-98; and

(g) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) and (b) The particulars of States where the National Literacy Mission is implementing various schemes under Adult Education and the amounts released during the last three years are given in the attached Statement-I.

(c) A statement II is attached.

(d) and (e) No established cases of misappropriation have been brought to the notice of the Government.

(f) and (g) The allocation for Adult Education Programmes for the year 1997-98 is Rs. 127.00 crores. There is no proposal to increase the allocation at present.

Statement-I

(Rupees in lakhs)

S. No.	State/UT	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1370.68	884.21	1081.06
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	71.56	25.63	20.72
3.	Assam	1159.04	361.09	194.29
4.	Bihar	1628.87	1977.84	1062.52
5.	Goa	11.59	5.95	3.32
6.	Gujarat	884.50	262.98	458.78
7.	Haryana	243.01	175.31	57.12
8.	Himachal Pradesh	109.15	26.43	49.18
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	190.40	132.70	50.47
10.	Karnataka	1041.84	319.58	350.16
11.	Kerala	57.32	7.00	537.97
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2821.52	977.67	548.58
13.	Maharashtra	1024.55	1153.63	432.83
14.	Manipur	72.67	17.62	20.63
15.	Meghalaya	29.08	127.74	112.45
16.	Mizoram	16.42	2.29	0.57
17.	Nagaland	39.73	47.81	56.90
18.	Orissa	606.36	801.36	310.13
19.	Punjab	277.61	370.34	135.00
20.	Rajasthan	1745.00	1681.76	1304.62
21.	Sikkim	11.22	–	11.22
22.	Tamilnadu	1594.58	1212.48	261.21
23.	Tripura	6.77	0.10	4.37
24.	Uttar Pradesh	2505.58	889.01	943.27
25.	West Bengal	1583.69	308.40	728.11
26.	Chandigarh	25.62	20.12	41.37